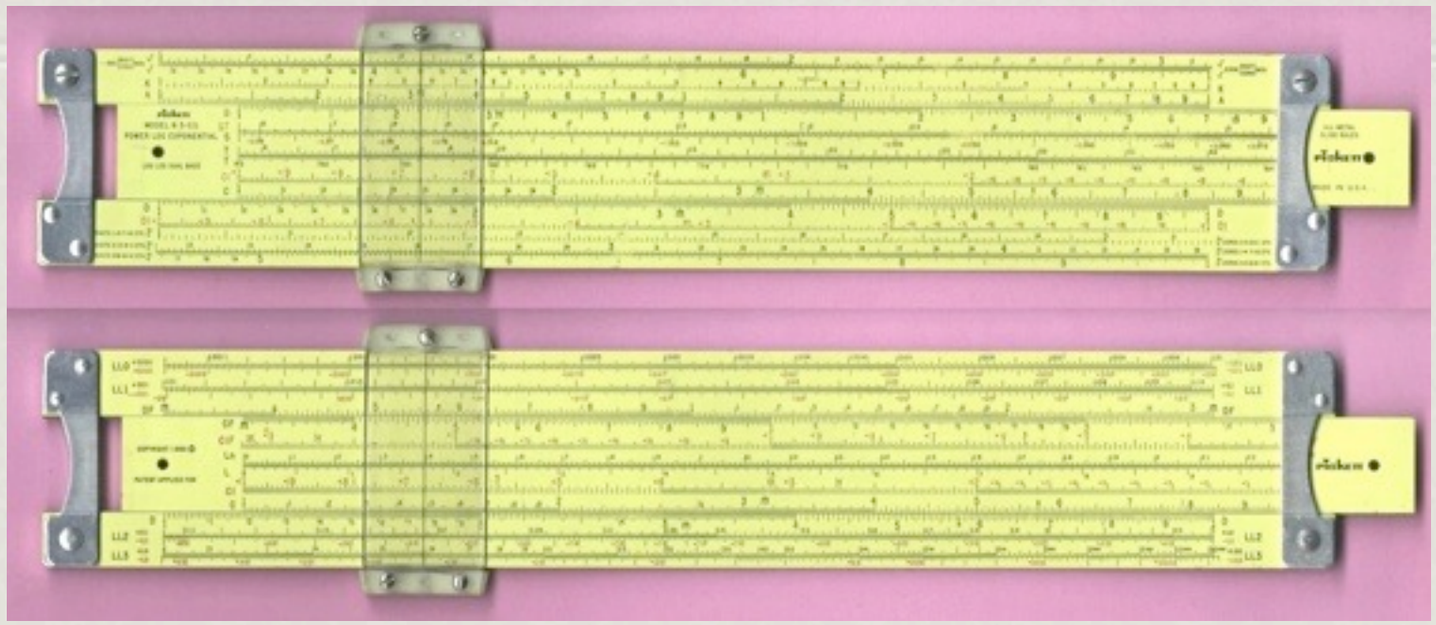
A Personal History of Computers

by David V. Black

My First "Computer"



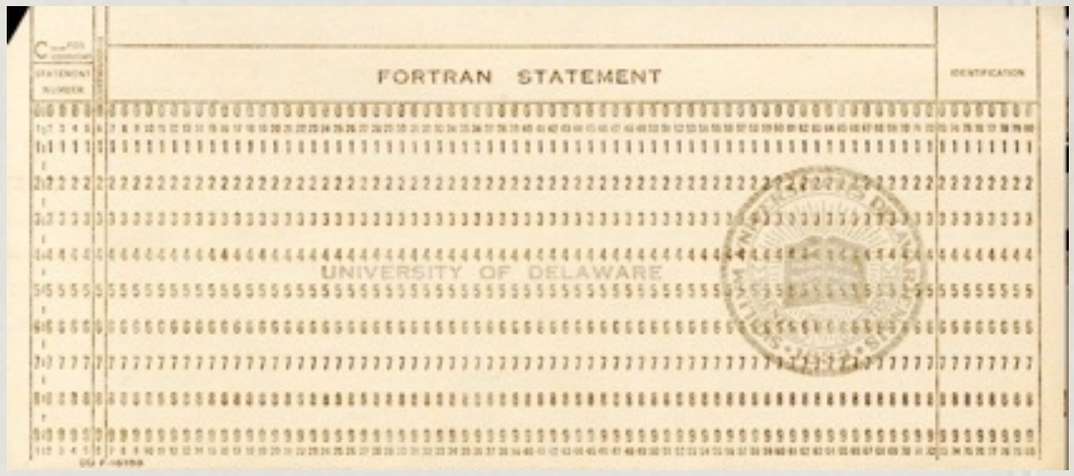
- *Slide rules use sliding scales to calculate numbers*
- *Accurate to about three digits*
- *Best slide rules were made by Pickett. Have you ever heard of Pickett computers?*

Oliver

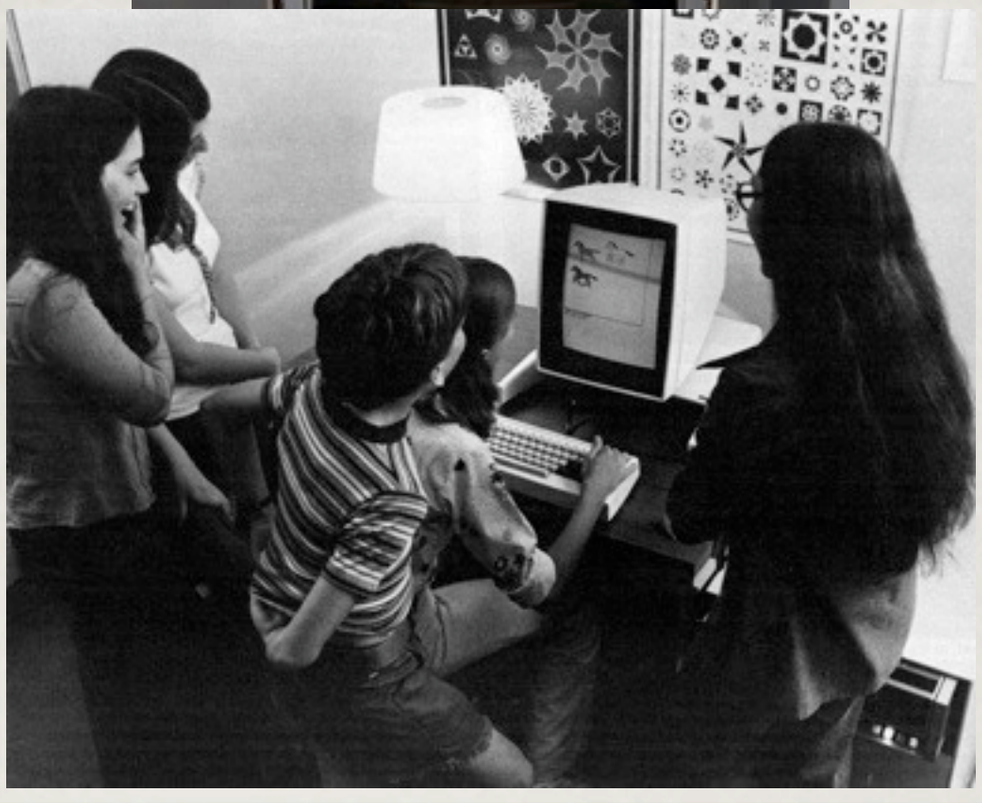
- *Purchased by Delta HS chemistry teacher*
- *Programmed by paper tape, cassette tape, or keyboard. Answers came out on tape as well.*
- *Not very useful*

BYU Mainframe

- *Programmed with Hollerith cards*
- *80 character command lines, keypunch machine*
- *Bad ribbons - very hard to read*
- *Feed the card stack into a card reader, then wait an hour or two for the program to run*
- *Find and replace the cards with mistakes*
- *Worked all night on simple programs*



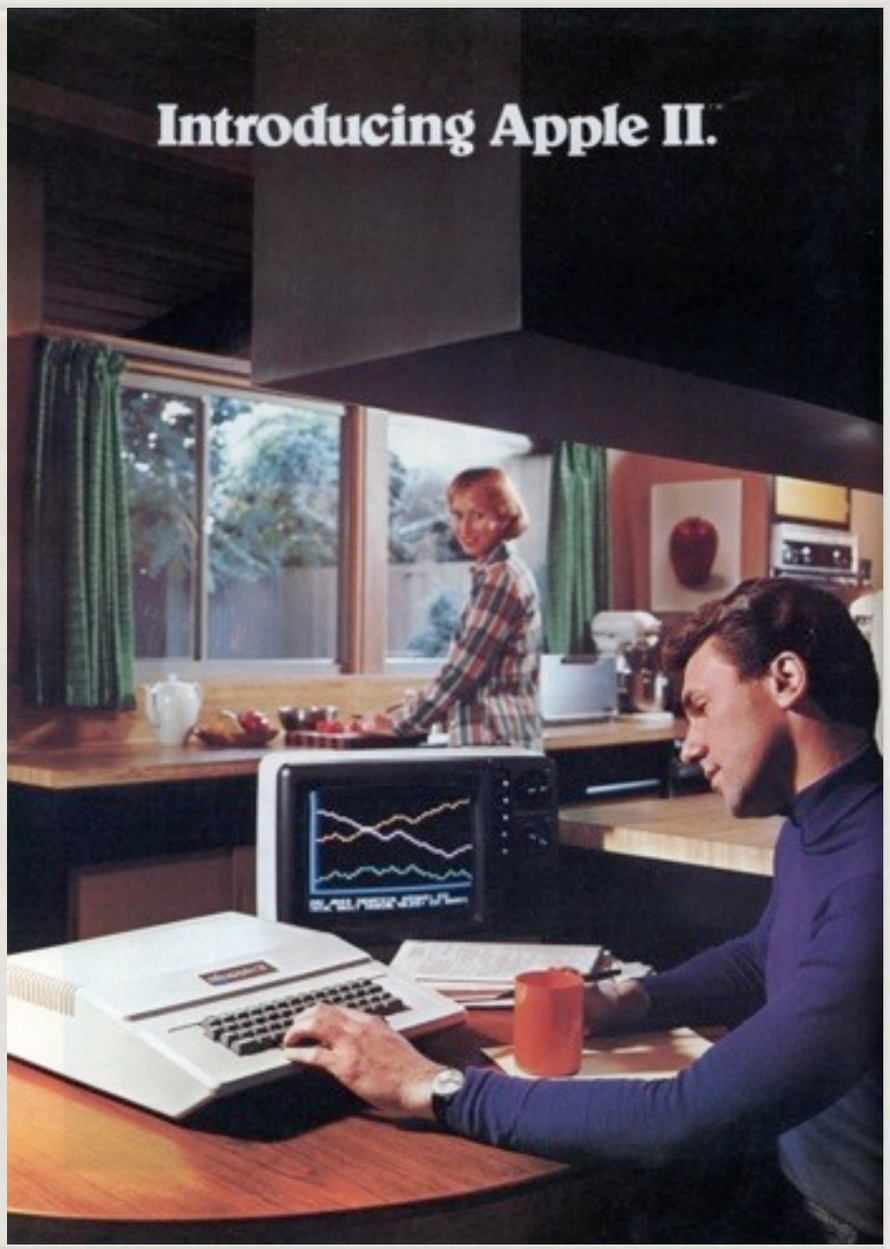
Paper for Honors Class



- *Computer as a bridge between classical and romantic modes of expression*
- *Computer is the ultimate "classical" expression*
- *But computers can be used to create art (new idea then)*
- *Art can be broken down into numbers (digitized) which can be manipulated by computer programs*

Apple II with BASIC

- *Type commands directly into the machine via keyboard*
- *Personal computer that could do useful things*
- *Business applications - accounting, word processing, etc.*
- *Still required user to know programming language*



Kaypro IV with WordStar

- *Portable computer - "luggable"*
- *Size of a large briefcase, ~weighed 25 pounds*
- *Programmed with CPM (Digital Research)*
- *Pre-packaged applications*
- *First computer games using graphics*

IBM PC with WordPerfect

- *Green or amber on black, not WYSIWYG*
- *Templates and keyboard commands*
- *Daisy wheel printer*
- *Wrote papers for graduate school*

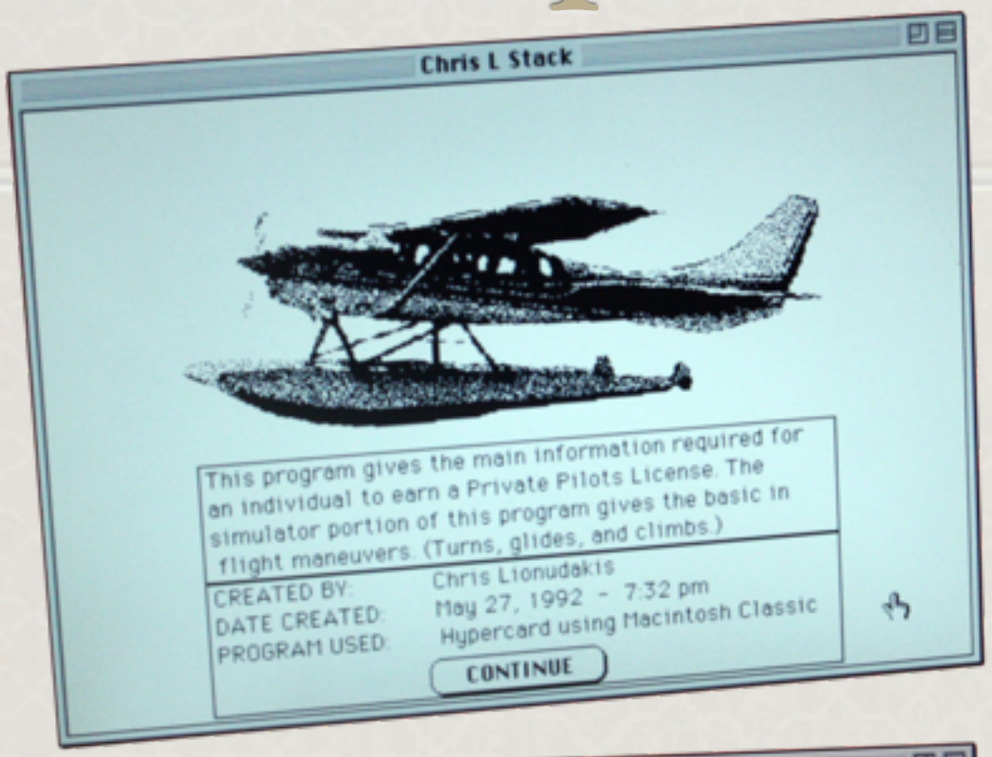
Macintosh

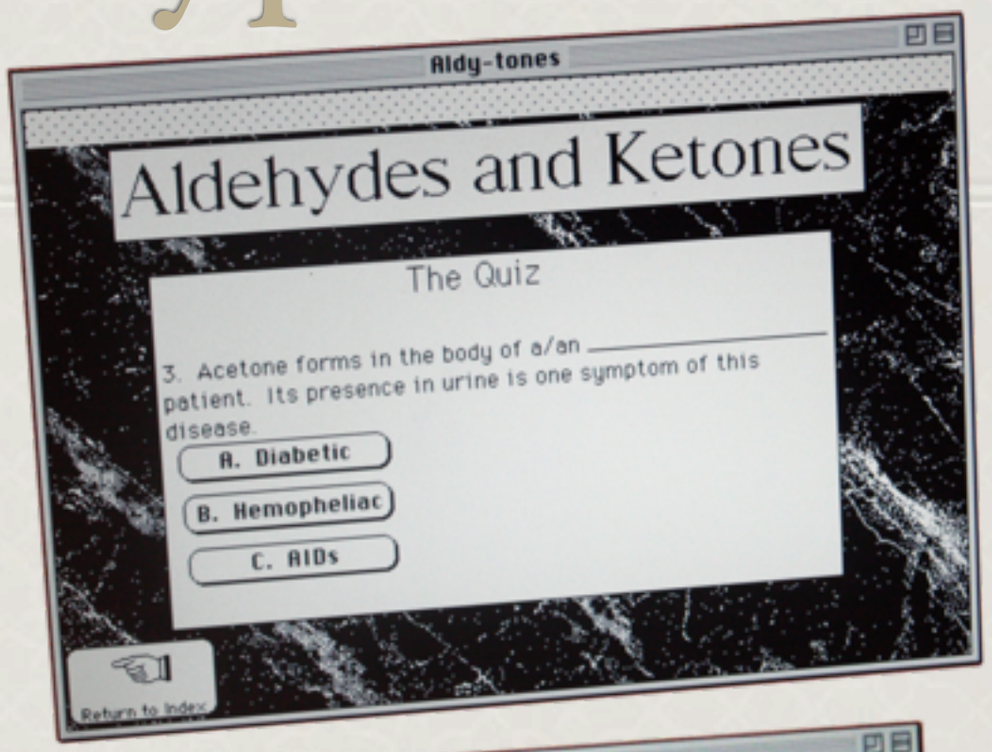
- *Business school purchased six Macs*
- *Had MacWrite, MacDraw, MacPaint*
- *Black on white, WYSIWYG*
- *Used mouse and GUI interface*
- *Dot-matrix printer with NLQ*
- *Used it for drawing charts for thesis*

Tioga High School

- *New computer lab with six Mac Classics*
- *Taught Computer Applications (ClarisWorks) - Keyboarding, Word Processing, Spreadsheets; Computer Graphics (SuperPaint); Interactive Programming (HyperCard)*
- *Could combine BW graphics with sounds, text, and linked buttons: non-linear*

Examples of HyperCard


Chris L Stack
This program gives the main information required for an individual to earn a Private Pilots License. The simulator portion of this program gives the basic in flight maneuvers. (Turns, glides, and climbs.)
CREATED BY: Chris Lionudakis
DATE CREATED: May 27, 1992 - 7:32 pm
PROGRAM USED: Hypercard using Macintosh Classic
CONTINUE


Aldy-tones
Aldehydes and Ketones
The Quiz
3. Acetone forms in the body of a/an _____ patient. Its presence in urine is one symptom of this disease.
A. Diabetic
B. Hemopheliac
C. AIDs
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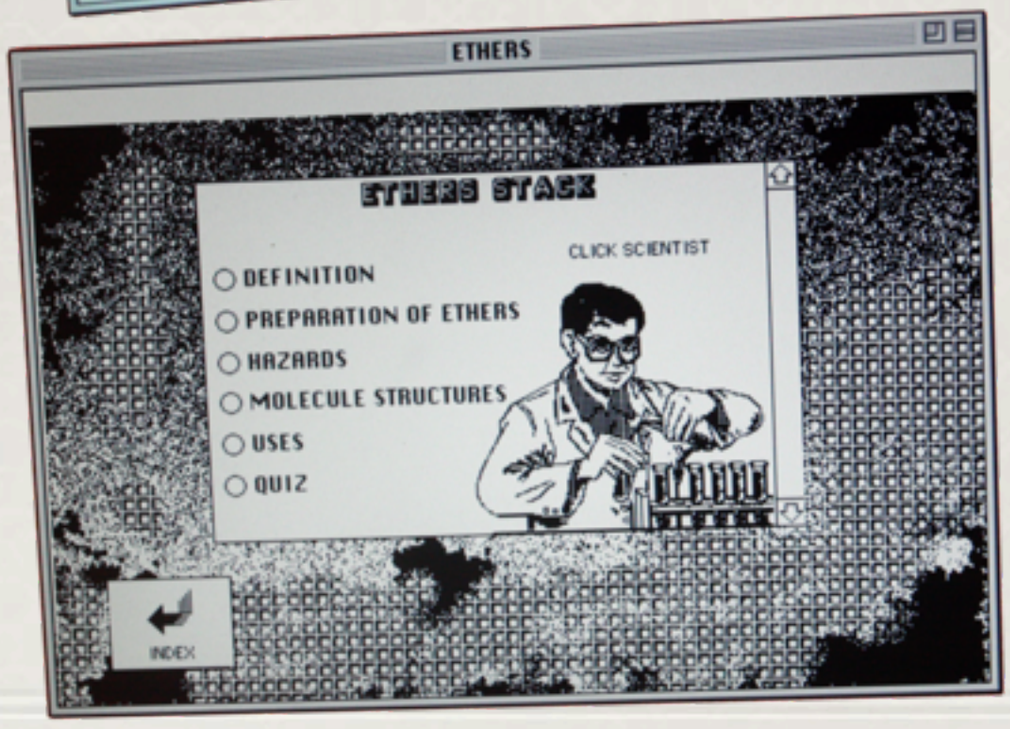
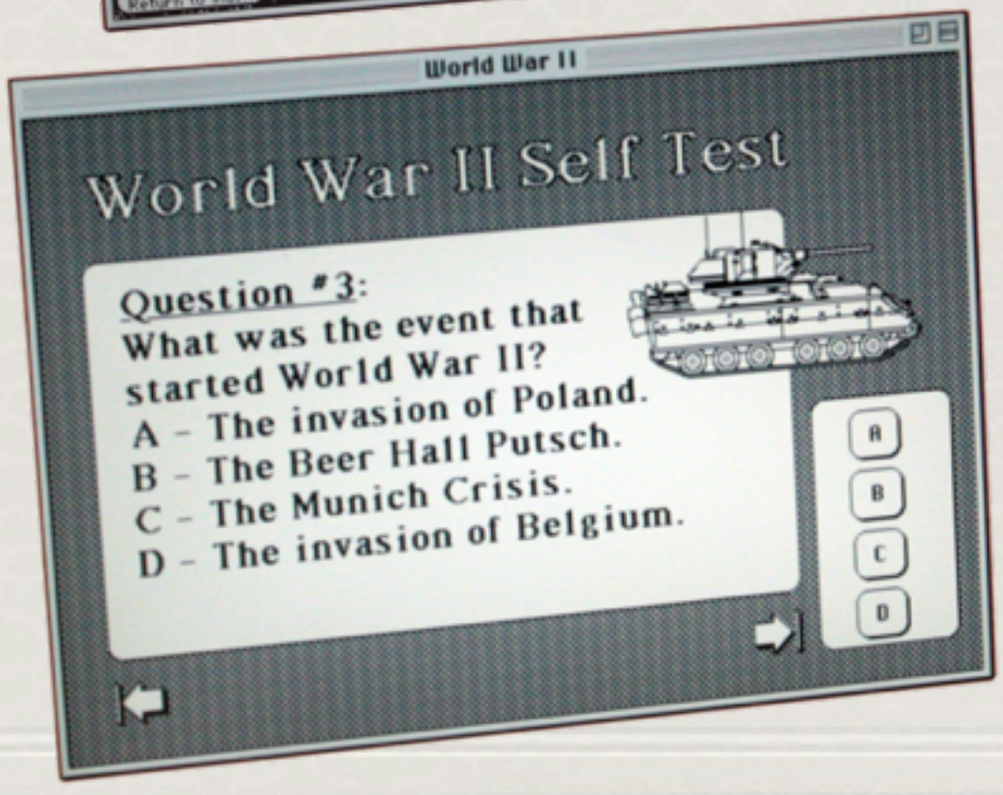


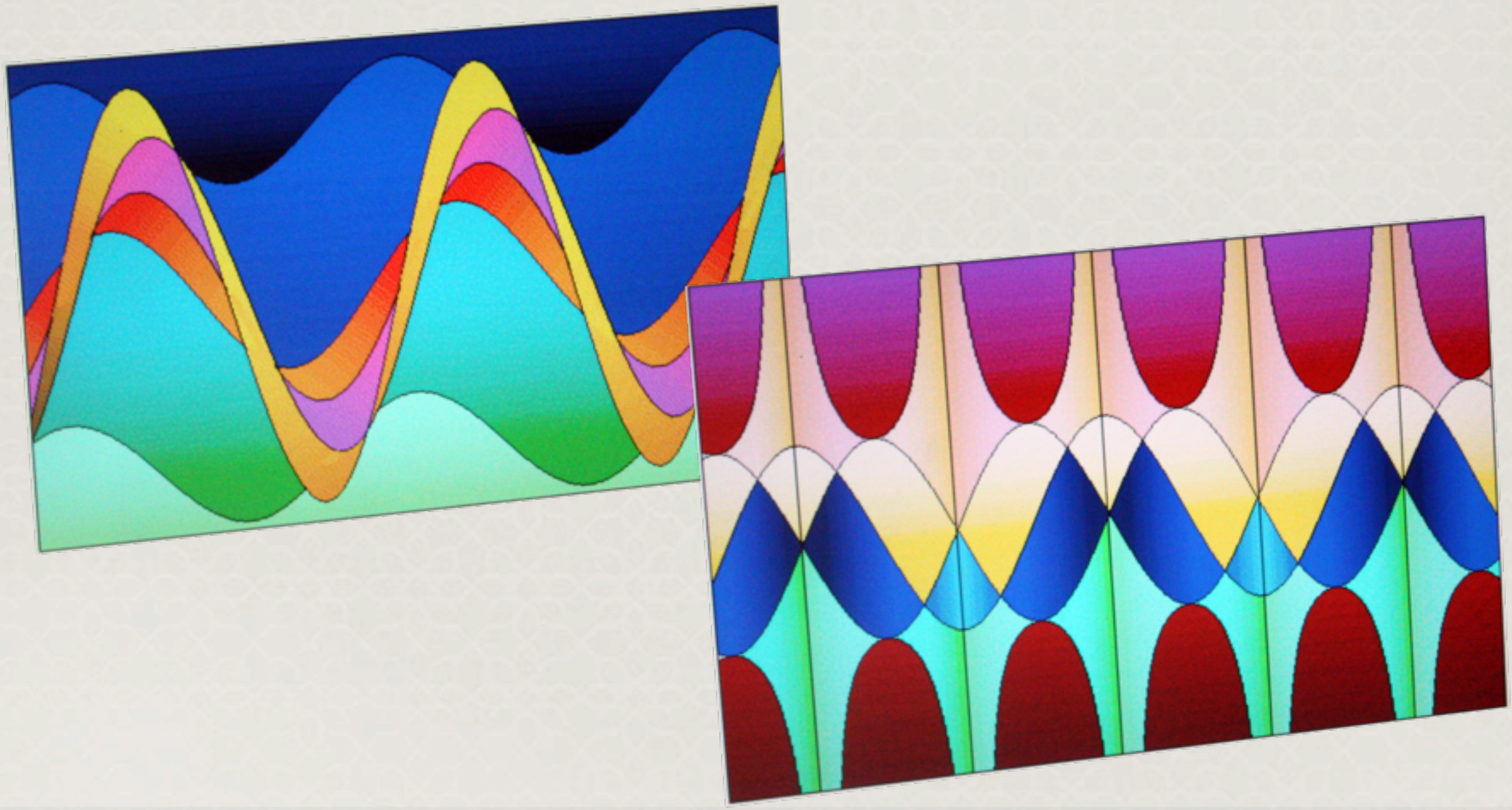


First Internet Usage

AMERICA
Online
For the Apple® IIe, IIc and Apple IIgs® personal computers.
ProDOS® Based.
Make a backup copy of this disk before using.
34121445

- *Had a modem line installed and used AOL with FTP access to find and download files (mostly clip-art)*
- *Used Archie search engine; very slow.*
- *Also had a 4 inch hand scanner with OCR*
- *LC II with color monitor and Color-It software*

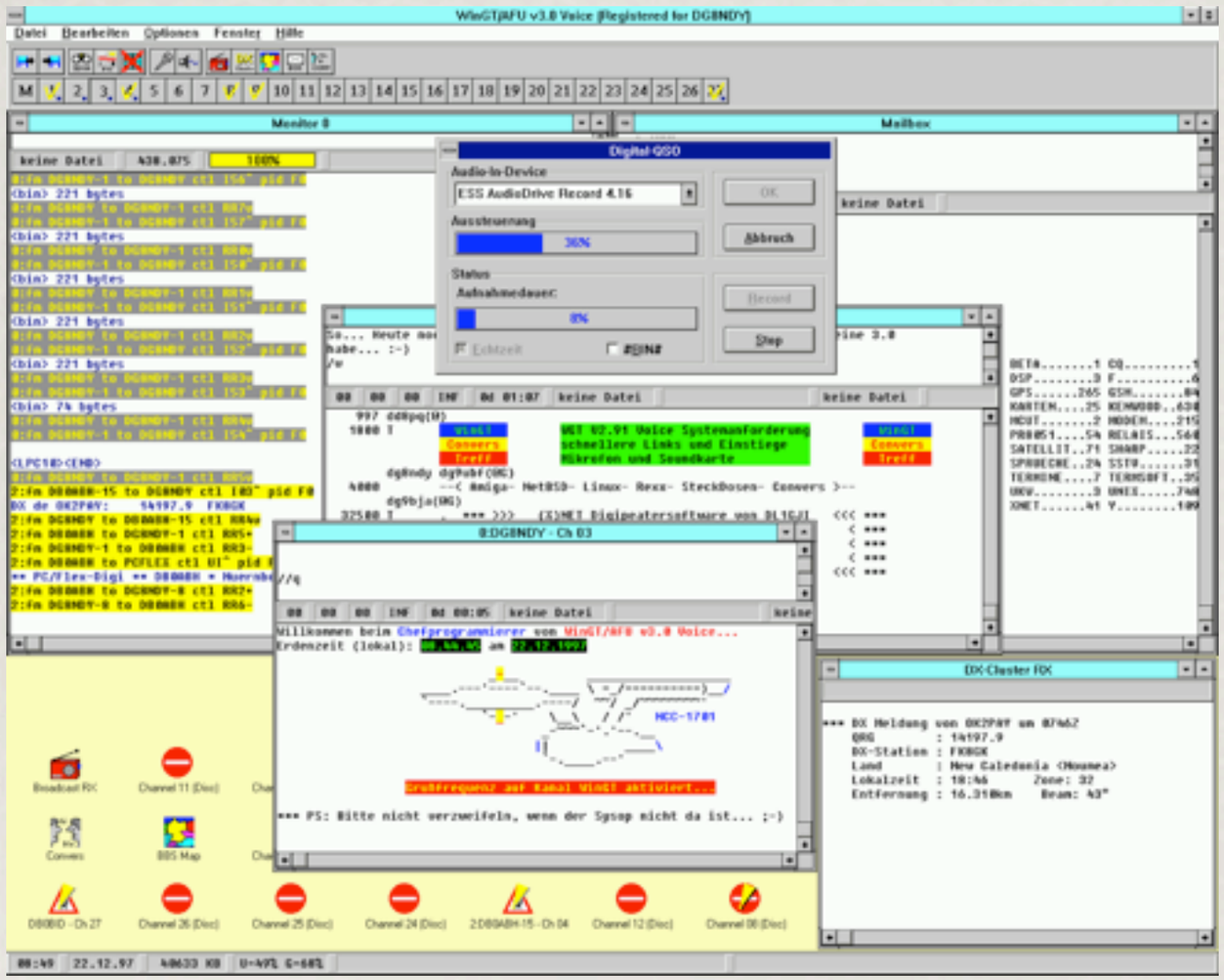
Examples of Color (Woo-hoo!)



Juab High School

- *Mac Classic with StyleWriter*
- *Quadra 660AV (PowerPC chip)*
- *First true multimedia computer: built-in speakers, high res monitor, text to speech, speech macros*
- *Animation Works and Photoshop 2.5*
- *No layers - composite with alpha channels. Color ink-jet printer.*

Provo Canyon School



- *Step backwards - IBM clones with DOS and Windows 3.1*
- *Used BASIC to create a musical Christmas tree*
- *First CD-ROM drive*

Mac G4 Desktop

- *First professional-level machine*
- *Photoshop 4, Illustrator 6, Premiere 4.2, Director 6*
- *Digitized music collection: tape to Premiere to audio CD*

MATC

- *Windows 98 machines*
- *Eventually Mac G5 towers with Final Cut*
- *Full computer graphics and multimedia equipment*
- *Mars Project - 3D Mars data, interactive CD, 3D modeling and animation*
- *Professional video: AM to FM*
- *Elements Unearthed project*

Laptop Computers

- *G4 with 15 inch monitor*
- *Macbook Pro with 17 in. monitor*
- *Business profile videos for clients*
- *Wedding video*
- *Chemical Heritage Foundation fellowship*
- *iPod with music, digital cameras, blogging, e-mail: digital lifestyle*

Where next?

- *Programming science apps for iPad*
- *Continue creating videos for Elements Unearthed and continue blog posts*
- *Elementary science demonstration program*
- *Desktop publishing: lesson plans to PDF and video*
- *Presentations to conferences (NSTA)*
- *Scenic Utah project*